VLR- 6/17/98 NRHP-10/30/98

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

#### National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

| Name of Property   |  |   |               |
|--|--|---|---------------|
| historic name "A" Fort and Battery   | Hill Redoubt, Camp E   | arly  |               |
|  | ion sheets, page l   |   |               |
| 2. Location  |  |   |               |
| street & number Balmoral Greens Ave.,  | 1 mi. s. of jct. wit   | h Compton Rd. NZ Anot for publi   | cation        |
| city or town Manassas Park   |  | vicinity  |               |
| stateVirginia codeVA   |  |   | 2024          |
| 3. State/Federal Agency Certification  |  |   |               |
| As the designated authority under the National Hist request for determination of eligibility meets the Historic Places and meets the procedural and professments of the National Register nationally a statewide locality. ( | <ul> <li>documentation standards for regi-<br/>essional requirements set forth in<br/>criteria. I recommend that this pro</li> </ul> | stering properties in the National Hegister of<br>36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property<br>perty be considered significant<br>ments.) | )<br>/        |
| Signature of certifying official/Title   | Date   | <del></del>   |               |
| Virginia Department of Histor  | ic Resources   |   | l             |
| State of Federal agency and bureau   |  |   |               |
| In my opinion, the property Theets does not comments.)   | ! meet the National Register criteri   | a. (C See continuation sheet for additional   | <br> <br>     |
| Signature of commenting official/Title   | Date   | <del></del>   | i             |
| State or Federal agency and bureau   |  |   |               |
| 4. National Park Service Certification   |  |   |               |
| hereby certify that the property is:   | Signature of the Kee   | per Da  | are of Action |
| entered in the National Register.  See continuation sheet.   |  |   | - · -         |
| determined eligible for the  National Register  See continuation sheet.  |  |   |               |
| determined not eligible for the National Register  | <u> </u>   |   |               |
| removed from the National<br>Register  | <del></del>  |   |               |
| ither (explain)  |  |   |               |

| 'A" Fort and Battery Hill Redoubt Name of Property                      |   | Fairfax, VA County and State   |                      |             |
|---|---|--|----------------------|-------------|
| 5. Classification   |   |  |                      |             |
| Ownership of Property<br>(Check as many boxes as apply)                 | Category of Property<br>(Check only one box)      | Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.) |                      |             |
| ☐ private ☐ building(s) ☐ public-focal ☐ district ☐ public-State ☒ site |   | Contributing 0   | Noncontributing<br>0 | buildings   |
| <ul><li>public-State</li><li>public-Federal</li></ul>                   | ⊾ site<br>□ structure                             | 2  | 0                    | sites       |
| □ object  | 0   | 0  | structures           |             |
|   |   | 0  | 0                    | objects     |
|   |   | 2  | 0                    | Total       |
| Name of related multiple p<br>(Enter "N/A" if property is not part      | property listing of a multiple property listing.) | Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register                    |                      |             |
| N/A   |   | 0  |                      |             |
| 6. Function or Use  |   |  |                      |             |
| Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)                 |   | Current Function<br>(Enter categories from   |                      |             |
| Defense:fortification   |   | Landscape:for  | est                  |             |
| Defense:military fac  | ility   |  |                      |             |
|   |   |  |                      |             |
|   |   |  |                      |             |
|   |   |  |                      |             |
|   |   |  |                      | ····        |
|   |   |  |                      |             |
| 7. Description  |   |  |                      |             |
| Architectural Classification<br>(Enter categories from instructions     |   | Materials<br>(Enter categories from  |                      |             |
| N/A   |   | foundation N/A   |                      |             |
|   |   | wallsN/A   | 1                    |             |
| :   |   | N/A  | <u> </u>             |             |
| :   |   | 1001   |                      |             |
| :   |   | otherN/A   |                      | <del></del> |

"A" Fort and Battery Hill Redoubt

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Record #

| <u>Fair</u> | fax | , VA  |
|-------------|-----|-------|
| County      | and | State |

|  | Oddrity and State  |
|--|--|
| 8. Statement of Significance   |  |
| Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)  | Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)   |
| X A Property is associated with events that have made<br>a significant contribution to the broad patterns of<br>our history.   | Military   |
| B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.  |  |
| C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. | Period of Significance<br>1861–1865  |
| D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield,<br>information important in prehistory or history.  |  |
| Criteria Considerations (Mark 'x' in all the boxes that apply)   | Significant Dates October 1861-March 1862  |
| Property is:   | 27-30 August 1862.   |
| A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.   | 15 October 1863  |
| B removed from its original location.  | Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)  N/A  |
| C a birthplace or grave  | Cultural Affiliation   |
| D a cemetery.  | N/A  |
| E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.  |  |
| F a commemorative property.  |  |
| G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.   | Architect/Builder<br>N/A   |
| Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheet)   | ets.)  |
| 9. Major Bibliographical References  |  |
| Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form of   | n one or more continuation sneets i  |
| Previous documentation on file (NPS):  | Primary location of additional data:   |
| preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested previously listed in the National Register previously determined eligible by the National Register designated a National Historic Landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey     | X State Historic Preservation Office  Other State agency Federal agency Local government University Other Name of repository Fairfax County Park Authority |

| 'A" Fort and Battery Hill Redoubt  | Foinfan VA   |
|--|--|
| Name of Property   | Fairfax, VA County and State   |
| 10. Geographical Data  |  |
| Acreage of Property See continuation sheets  |  |
| Acreage of Property <u>See concernate on sheecs</u>  |  |
| <b>UTM References</b> (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)  See cont     | inuation sheets  |
| Zone Easting Northing  | Zone Easting Northing  |
| 2  | 4 See continuation sheet   |
| Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.) |  |
| Boundaries are shown by accompanying map, "Ge Boundary Justification                           | neral Development Plan: Balmoral."   |
| (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)                            |  |
| 11. Form Prepared By   |  |
| name/title Howe, Ronald D. / contractor  |  |
| organization Fairfax County Park Authority   | date 14 November 1997  |
| street & number 525 Florida Ave., # 104  | telephone <u>703-481-5774 (daytime)</u>                                      |
| city or townHerndon  | state VA zip code 20170  |
| Additional Documentation   |  |
| Submit the following items with the completed form:  |  |
| Continuation Sheets  |  |
| Maps   |  |
| A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the  | e property's location. 7.5   |
| A Sketch map for historic districts and properties ha  | aving large acreage or numerous resources.                                   |
| See accompanying sketch maps enti  | itled "'A' Fort" and "Battery Hill Redoubt."                                 |
| Representative black and white photographs of the  | e property.  |
| See continuation sheets for list   | and description of photographs.  |
| Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)                         |  |
| Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)                             |  |
|  | ounty  |
| name Board of Supervisors, Fairfax C Suite 533   | ouncy  |
| Suite 533<br>street & number 12000 Government Center Pr  |  |
| city or town Fairfax   | stateVA zip code22035  |
| D  | and for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate |

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget. Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018). Washington, DC 20503.

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"A" Fort and Battery Hill Redoubt, Camp Early Fairfax County, Virginia

Name of Property, other names/site number

Measles Fort / 44FX506 & 44FX529

#### Description

The Confederate fortifications constructed at Camp Early (Union Mills, Virginia) include a large A-shaped earthwork with its apex facing east and a smaller redoubt with an entrance from the west. Both sites are in the Piedmont Uplands physiographic province and are situated on a plateau between Johnny Moore Creek to the east and the confluence of Little Rocky Run and Bull Run to the west, all streams being part of the Occoquan Basin. The larger fortification is located upon a rise with an elevation of 325 feet above sealevel, and the redoubt is on a knoll that reaches 335 feet. Both sites, covered by secondary forest consisting primarily of mixed deciduous trees, have suffered from the combined effects of erosion, frequent relic hunting, and off-road vehicle traffic.

The larger earthwork, which adheres to the general outlines for a lunette fortification as set forth by Professor D. H. Mahan's A Complete Treatise on Field Fortification (1836), measures 550 feet north to south by 500 feet east to west with a total length exceeding 1100 feet (see sketch map entitled "'A' Fort" and photographs 1-12). Its walls along the left and right flanks are roughly sixteen feet thick at their base and range in height from two to four feet, with shallow dry ditches paralleling both sides. At the fortification's apex or "advanced part," the earthen walls measure twenty-six feet across at the base and exceed six feet in height above ground level. Five cannon embrasures are located in this portion of the line, facing north, northeast, east, southeast, and south. The positioning of these embrasures would have provided Confederate guns a wide field of fire and allowed them to defend both the fort's "retired parts" and other nearby Confederate positions. A water-filled trench six to ten feet wide also abuts the eastern side of this portion of the earthwork. Another earthen wall running from north to south, approximately three feet tall and

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"A" Fort and Battery Hill Redoubt, Camp Early Fairfax County, Virginia

#### Description (continued)

twelve feet wide, lies within the fortification and probably was intended as protection for the artillery if enemy troops attacked from the west. Within the confines of the fortification west of the interior earthen wall lie the disturbed remains of at least one well, one house, and one other unidentified structure. To the north and northeast of the fortification, there are 156 square features arranged in twelve rows which have been interpreted as tent platforms. East of these are two rows of slit trenches, one with three segments and measuring 110 feet long and the other with four segments and measuring 215 feet long; the trenches are 3 feet wide, at least 2 feet deep, and have been interpreted as latrines.

The smaller fortification, which lies approximately 1200 feet to the south of the larger fortification, adheres to Mahan's outlines for a square redoubt (see sketch map entitled "Battery Hill Redoubt" and photographs 13-16). Its walls, twenty to thirty-four feet thick at their base and four to six feet tall, form a crude rectangle with an interior circumference of approximately 240 feet. The redoubt contains nine separate cannon embrasures facing every possible direction except due west. The water-filled remnants of a trench run along the outside of the redoubt's eastern side.

Contemporary accounts from the Civil War reveal that these fortifications had a very different original setting which contributed to the site's significance. A sketch in <a href="Frank Leslie">Frank Leslie</a>'s <a href="Illustrated Newspaper">Illustrated Newspaper</a> of 12 April 1862 depicts Union Mills as virtually treeless (see "Rebel Position Near Centreville..." on page 3); and a map prepared for Confederate General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson in the autumn of 1862 indicates that the these fortifications overlooked strategic points that regulated access to and around Manassas Junction: Union Mills Road, which connected Union Mills and Centreville, ran along the slope just east of the Confederate line; and McClean's Ford, which afforded passage across Bull Run, was just to the west (see "Sketch Showing Position of Second Corps, A.N.Va...." on page 4).

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"A" Fort and Battery Hill Redoubt,
Camp Early
Fairfax County, Virginia

Fortifications

Position Near Centreville, Va., At The Crossing Of The Orange Encampment, From A Sketch By Our Special Artist Mr. Showing Rebel Alexandria Railway Over Bull Run, Fortifications.

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# REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS HE GEOGRAPHY AND ΗAP DIVISION,

#### **United States Department of the Interior** National Park Service

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"A" Fort and Battery Hill Redoubt, Camp Early Fairfax County, Virginia

ATTAS TO ACCOMPANY THE OFFICIAL RECORDS OF THE UNION AND CONFEDERATE ARMES 1861 - 1865. SKETCH , Gum Spring SHOWING POSITIONS OF SECOND CORPS, A.N.VA.. August 260 to September 2.1802. Sellers EMBRACING ENGAGEMENTS AT DRISTOF STATION MANASSAS JUNCTION. GROVETON OR SECOND BULL RUN. OX HILL OR CHANTILLY VA. Prepared to accompany Report of Lieut Gen. THOFU JACKSON JeS. qoESSEMETOLIQUE. Lacorpa.A.K.Vo Confederate · Federal LIBRARY OF CONGRESS Locations of: 'A" Fort and Battery Hill Redoubt l'infon Altilla Whatteniel Type of the way region of the work of the Ar TERINGS COLUMN PARTO PARTS 641

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"A" Fort and Battery Hill Redoubt, Camp Early Fairfax County, Virginia

#### Statement of Significance

The Confederate fortifications at Union Mills are historically significant because they were directly connected to important events in the American Civil War. Constructed by General Joseph E. Johnston's Army of the Potomac in the winter of 1861-1862 following the Confederate victory at the First Battle of Manassas (Bull Run), these fortifications were elements in the Confederates' defenses of Manassas, running from Centreville in Fairfax County to Dumfries in Prince William County. This line of fortifications was born of Southern confidence in late 1861 that the Confederacy could successfully defend against Union incursion into Northern Virginia and perhaps even threaten Washington itself. While this was soon proved to be wishful thinking, the seeming strength of Confederate line around Manassas did influence the course of the war in the eastern theater by delaying a renewed Union assault through This delay gave Confederate forces time to Northern Virginia. assume a stronger position near the Rappahannock River and further impelled General George B. McClellan to initiate his Peninsular Campaign of 1862, the failure of which emboldened Confederate forces to move north again, first to victory at the Second Battle of Manassas (Bull Run) and then to bloody stalemate at the Battle of Antietam.

These earthworks are made more significant by the fact that they are the last remaining fortifications constructed by the Confederate Army of the Potomac in Fairfax County, Virginia, and by the the fortifications potential inherent both in archaeological themselves and in the relationship between the forts and the many features associated with the larger camp complex, including roads, affiliated out-buildings and officer housing, summer and winter camp sites, cooking hearths, and sanitation facilities. Because the fortification and environs appear extensively relic hunted, any resulting articfact ditribution study must be interpreted with Nontheless, there remains the potential that extreme caution. archaeological research at the site can identify or confirm the presence of specific military units that occupied the area.

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"A" Fort and Battery Hill Redoubt, Camp Early Fairfax County, Virginia

#### Statement of Significance (continued)

without such artifacts, the fortifications contain archaeological record of the field engineering methods employed by Confederates early in the war and provide a standard by which to measure later Confederate works. Such information also provides a reference point for comparisons between Confederate and Union field techniques during the initial phase of hostilities. Similarly, the quantity and proximity of so many interrelated camp components and occupation associated with the construction fortifications offer an excellent means of analyzing the spatial layout of an early Confederate encampment. And lastly, subsequent occupation of this area by Union forces, especially if confirmed by credible artifactual evidence, may allow a direct comparison between Union and Confederate army encampment practices and methods.

#### Historical background and significance

The fortifications are located upon property originally part of a 383-acre tract of land granted on 8 April 1806 to John Gibson of The land's first resident was Prince William County, Virginia. Elisha Jenkins, who in 1823 acquired temporary rights to clear and cultivate twenty acres from Gibson's executor, John Spence. 1835, the property was sold to Daniel Kincheloe, a forty-two-year-Kincheloe soon created a working old veteran of the War of 1812. plantation and by 1859 owned 3 slaves, 3 horses, and 30 head of Adjacent tracts underwent a similar process. The land directly to the east was granted to John Waugh on 20 September 1710 and had by 1860 become the farm and home for John and Elizabeth Detweiler, originally from Pennsylvania. The land to the south was granted to William Lynton on 18 October 1728 and by 1860 had passed into the hands of Nancy Dye, who owned more than 500 acres in Fairfax and Prince William Counties. The land to the northwest was granted to Nathaniel Russell on 12 November 1725 and by 1860 had been reduced and resold until it was in the possession of John Hooe, Jr. The land directly to the north was granted to Henry Watson on 7

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"A" Fort and Battery Hill Redoubt, Camp Early Fairfax County, Virginia

Statement of Significance (continued)

July 1732 and by 1860 had become the farm and home of Cyrus Hickey, Daniel Kincheloe's nephew.

The farms and fields belied the area's strategic importance as the Civil War approached, however. The community of Union Mills, which lay roughly one mile to the southeast, had coalesced in the early nineteenth century around John Hixon Dye's complex of grist, timber, and woolen mills. Railroad expansion in the 1840s and 1850s resulted in the construction of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad linking Washington, D.C. to the Shenandoah Valley and the interior of Virginia, with a station operating in Union Mills by 1852. the onset of the Civil War in 1861, Confederate forces sought to retain control of this railroad by massing troops at Manassas Junction, where the Manassas Gap Railroad joined the Orange and Urged on by President Lincoln, General Irvin McDowell Alexandria. moved his Union forces across Bull Run in July 1861 so as to While the resulting First Battle of dislodge the Confederates. Manassas (Bull Run), where Confederate forces under General Pierre G. T. Beauregard defeated McDowell's larger Union army, bypassed Union Mills and its surrounding farms, the conflict evidenced the increasing militarization of the entire area.

Confederate hopes for an easy victory soared in the wake of the battle, with some Southerners now expressing the view that they could successfully hold Northern Virginia and even capture the Union capital. This belief initially prompted the Confederate Army of the Potomac commanded by General Joseph E. Johnston to expand its sector of control in Fairfax County to the outer suburbs of Washington, D.C. Increasing Union strength in and around Washington soon convinced Johnston to pull his armies back to a consolidated position in western Fairfax County, commanded by General James Longstreet, and in northern Prince William County, commanded by Major General Earl Van Dorn.

By mid-October 1861, Confederate forces had begun a substantial line

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"A" Fort and Battery Hill Redoubt, Camp Early Fairfax County, Virginia

Statement of Significance (continued)

of earthworks in Fairfax County extending around the north and east of Centreville and stretching down to Bull Run (see "Rebel Position at Centreville" on page 8 and photographs 17-18). This line included the occupation and fortification of the high ground near Union Mills in Fairfax County. A letter from Charles Minor Blackford of the 2nd Virginia Cavalry to his wife, dated 17 October, reported that Confederate troops along the Union Mills Road were busily engaged fortifying "elevated points." His brother, Eugene Blackford of the 5th Alabama Infantry camped at Union Mills under the command of General Richard S. Ewell, similarly wrote to his uncle on 23 October that Confederate troops had erected a "continuous line for 5 miles, from Bull Run to Centreville," and that his unit had just completed a "very substantial field-work about 300 yards long."

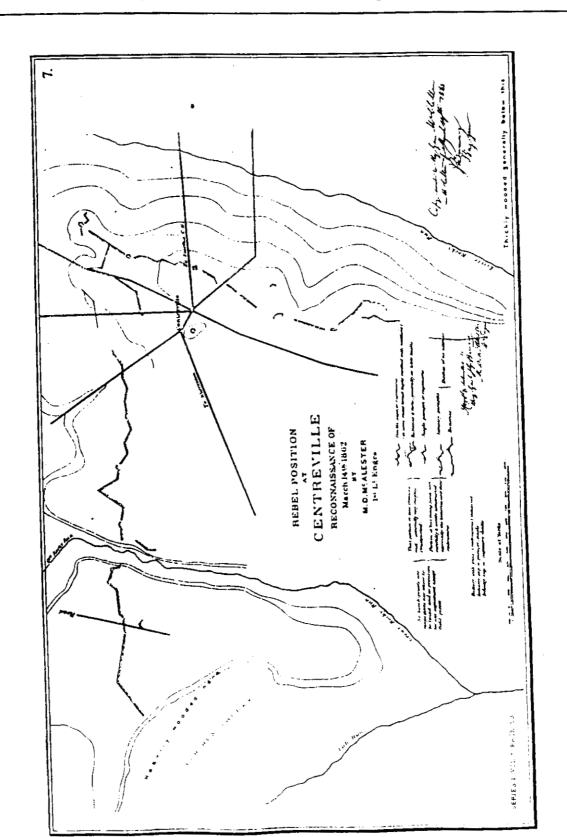
Construction continued unabated even as winter approached. After the 5th Alabama were reassigned to picket duty below Bull Run in December 1861, units under the command of General Jubal Early (comprised of the 5th North Carolina Infantry, 23rd North Carolina Infantry, 20th Georgia Infantry, 24th Virginia Infantry, and the Jeff Davis Artillery from Alabama) assumed control of Union Mills and dubbed the area "Camp Early." James H. Hormer of the 23 North Carolina Infantry, encamped approximately three-quarters of a mile northwest of Union Mills, wrote home in early November that "we continue to put up fortifications here and great activity pervades the entire Army of the Potomac." John Detweiler later recorded that Confederate soldiers, besides digging nearly nine hundred yards of trenches across his land, "took about all the fencing, and cut out the biggest portion of timber." By early 1862, the land between Union Mills and Centreville had become one of the most thoroughly fortified spots in the United States, and two earthworks had been built near Union Mills guarding the approaches to Manassas (see "Rebel Positions Near Centreville" on page 3).

What was not apparent, however, was the tenuous condition of the

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"A" Fort and Battery Hill Redoubt, Camp Early Fairfax County, Virginia



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"A" Fort and Battery Hill Redoubt, Camp Early Fairfax County, Virginia

#### Statement of Significance (continued)

Political infighting among the Confederate Confederate line. generals and problems in supplying the troops severely weakened Johnston's forces. Many of the cannons mounted in the Confederates' fortifications were "Quaker cannons," logs shaped and painted to resemble real guns (see photographs 18-20); and the similarity between the cannon embrasures housing such "guns" at Centreville and those still existing at Battery Hill Redoubt suggests that this may have been the case at Union Mills as well. Rampant illness and permissive leave policies had also sapped Confederate strength. of March 1862, only 2,349 of the 3,084 men enrolled under General Early's command at Union Mills were actually present and ready for These problems were only accentuated by Union victories in Tennessee and Kentucky in early 1862 and by increasing Union activity in Fairfax County and on the eastern shore of the Potomac across from Dumfries, Virginia.

Johnston accordingly ordered the transfer of supplies and material south in February and followed that in early March with an order for the troops under his command to fall back to a more secure line along the Rappahannock River. General Early's troops were given their orders on 8 March and departed Union Mills the following evening, having first put to the torch any house or supplies that might be of use to the enemy. The last of Johnston's infantry departed Manassas on 9 March 1862, followed by his cavalry on the morning of the 10th after first firing all the depots and property along the railroad.

The fortifications in the Union Mills-Centreville line had served the Confederacy well, nonetheless. A reorganized and refitted Union Army of the Potomac squandered the early months of 1862 as its leaders argued over military strategy. President Lincoln and Radical Republicans in Congress desired a renewed attack on Confederate positions in Northern Virginia; but General George B. McClellan, promoted to command in the days following the First Battle of Manassas, advocated an amphibious assault against coastal

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Statement of Significance (continued)

Virginia as a means of circumventing the seemingly strong Confederate lines near Manassas. While McClellan and his generals were locked in dispute and Lincoln was issuing a direct order for operations to begin, the Confederate forces accomplished their evacuation of Manassas, settling the issue of Union strategy for the moment. The Union Army of the Potomac began to prepare for the onset of the Peninsular Campaign in April 1862.

Even as McClellan moved against Confederate troops on the Peninsula, Union troops established camps and pickets along the abandoned Confederate positions in western Fairfax County. A number of these camps were situated in the neighborhood of Union Mills and were posted to protect the restoration and operation of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad under the direction of Herman Haupt. A Union blockhouse was constructed specifically to guard the railroad bridge over Bull Run just west of Union Mills. These posts and pickets also served as the outer perimeter of the defenses of Washington, and an almost continuous Union presence would thereafter persist in the Union Mills area into 1864.

While skirmishes and raids on Union detachments in the area were regular over the next two years, only two more notable battles would take place in the area. The first occurred soon after McClellan's assault on Richmond faltered in July 1862. Confederate forces now commanded by General Robert E. Lee moved north to join Generals James Longstreet and "Stonewall" Jackson, and their combined armies won a decisive victory over Union General John Pope at the Second During this Battle of Manassas (Bull Run) in late August 1862. engagement, the Bull Run Railroad Bridge near Union Mills was the scene of extensive combat and retreating Union troops used the old Confederate fortifications at Centreville to guard their retreat back to Washington (see photograph 21). This victory facilitated General Lee's invasion of Maryland and the subsequent Battle of Antietam.

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"A" Fort and Battery Hill Redoubt, Camp Early Fairfax County, Virginia

Statement of Significance (continued)

The last battle to take place in southwestern Fairfax County occurred in October 1863, the only documented instance in which the Confederate fortifications at Union Mills were used in combat. Confederate forces under Robert E. Lee, sensing opportunity and eager to atone for their loss at Gettysburg a few months earlier, moved out from their defensive positions behind the Rapidan River and attacked General George C. Meade's right flank. As the Union army abandoned its lines, both sides began to move north toward Washington, D.C. seeking a strategic advantage. A Union victory at the Battle of Bristoe Station provided General Meade with time to consolidate his troops along the old Union Mills-Centreville line. On 15 October, General J. E. B. Stuart led his Confederate cavalry forces forward to scout out the new Union position and encountered a brigade of New Jersey and Pennsylvania volunteers under the command of General Mott guarding McClean's Ford across Bull Run. dismounted cavalry troops failed to dislodge the Union soldiers who were now sheltered in some small Confederate earthworks built during the winter of 1861-1862, the Confederates brought their artillery to The battle was intensifying when a section of rifledartillery under the command of Union Captain Robinson appeared. After quickly surveying the area, Captain Robinson posted his guns to Battery Hill Redoubt; and the fire from the artillery soon Realizing that Meade's compelled the Confederates to withdraw. position was too strong and that his own armies were over extended, Lee abandoned the attack and ordered his troops to fall back to the Rapidan River.

By 1864, the war had shifted decisively south as the Union's abundance of men and material overwhelmed the Confederates' ability to defend their ever shrinking borders. Residents now began filtering back into the area around Union Mills, some from the safety of Washington and Alexandria, others from Union prisons where they had been sent for providing aid to the Confederacy. All returned with hopes for starting anew, but the scars of military occupation were simply too severe. The community's size and

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"A" Fort and Battery Hill Redoubt, Camp Early Fairfax County, Virginia

#### Statement of Significance (continued)

economic standing had declined greatly during the occupation, and the local post office closed in 1866. When the railroad station at Union Mills closed in 1869, unable to compete with Devereaux's Station located at the new community of Clifton, Virginia a few miles to the east, the entire area began a slow decline into obscurity. As for the property upon which the Confederates had erected the largest fortifications at Union Mills, it was effectively abandoned. Owner Daniel Kincheloe died in April 1861 even before the First Battle of Manassas (Bull Run), and over the course of the next fifty years only the eastern 177 of his 383 acres would be occupied and cultivated. The bulk of Kincheloe's estate slowly returned to secondary forest.

#### Bibliography

#### Primary Sources

- Luria, Albert Moses. War Journal of Albert Moses Luria, August 19, 1861 to February 13, 1862. Southern Historical Collection, Library of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
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"A" Fort and Battery Hill Redoubt, Camp Early Fairfax County, Virginia

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  New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1943.
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"A" Fort and Battery Hill Redoubt, Camp Early Fairfax County, Virginia

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  Civil War History of Union Mills, Fairfax County, Virginia:
  Parts One and Two. Fairfax, Virginia: Fairfax County History
  Commission, 1992.
- Smith, Eugenia B. Centreville, Virginia: Its History and Architecture. Fairfax, Virginia: Fairfax County Office of Planning, 1973.
- Whitley, Cynthia A. "A Management Summary of Phase I, II, III Archaeological Investigations of the Balmoral Tract and Balmoral Greens Golf Course, Fairfax, Virginia." Submitted to Chevy Chase Savings Bank, Elm Street Development, Inc., and the Fairfax County Office of Comprehensive Planning, Heritage Resources Division, Fairfax, Virginia, 1996.

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### "A" Fort, Camp Early Fairfax County, Virginia

Note: "A" Fort and Battery Hill Redoubt are situated upon two non-contiguous tracts of land connected by an easement across private property [see map entitled "Section of General Development Plan: Balmoral (17 April 1992)" on page 18].

Acreage of Property: approximately eighteen and a half acres

#### UTM References

- 1. 18 289200 4296575
- 2. 18 289260 4296545
- 3. 18 289210 4296180
- 4. 18 289040 4296180
- 5. 18 289030 4296430

#### Verbal Boundary Description

See map entitled "Section of General Development Plan: Balmoral (17 April 1992)" on page 18.

#### Boundary Justification

The boundary for "A" Fort includes sufficient land to encompass the historic resource and provide it with sufficient setting for protection and interpretation. While much of the neighboring area was either directly or indirectly associated with the system of Confederate fortifications at Union Mills, the surrounding area has been and will continue to be altered by the development of the Balmoral Tract and Balmoral Greens Golf Course. In order to preserve and protect "A" Fort and its immediate environs, Elm Street Development, Inc. transferred ownership of approximately eighteen and a half acres of land containing the fort to Fairfax County for park purposes. The boundary coincides with the legal boundaries of that parcel transferred to Fairfax County by Elm Street Development known as "Open Space A."

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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### Battery Hill Redoubt, Camp Early Fairfax County, Virginia

Note: "A" Fort and Battery Hill Redoubt are situated upon two non-contiguous tracts of land connected by an easement across private property [see map entitled "Section of General Development Plan: Balmoral (17 April 1992)" on page 18].

Acreage of Property: approximately six and a half acres

#### UTM References

- 6. 18 289190 4295885
- 7. 18 289205 4295690
- 8. 18 289015 4295835

#### Verbal Boundary Description

See map entitled "Section of General Development Plan: Balmoral (17 April 1992)" on page 18.

#### Boundary Justification

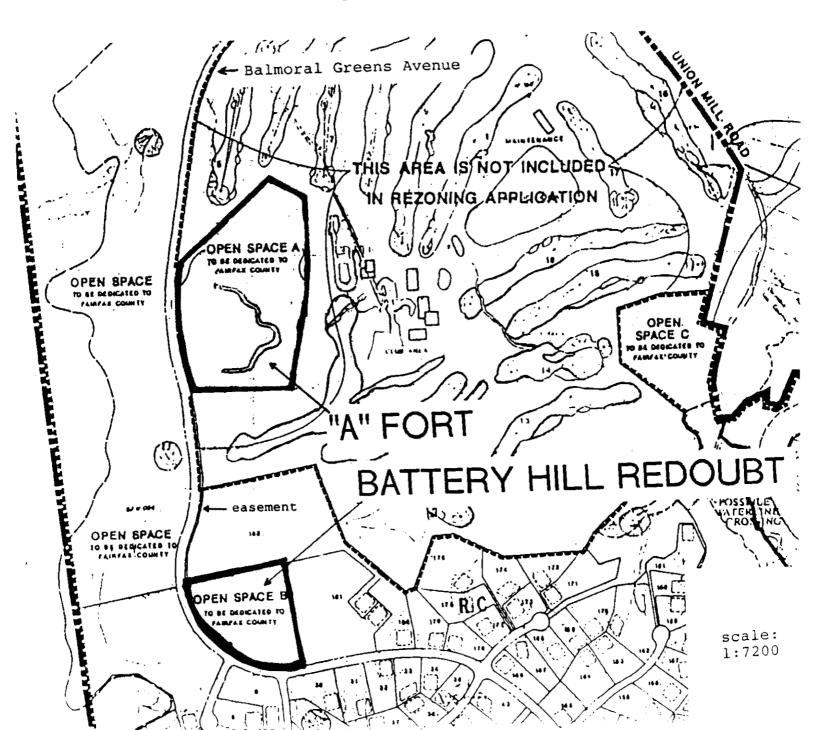
The boundary for Battery Hill Redoubt includes sufficient land to encompass the historic resource and provide it with sufficient setting for protection and interpretation. While much of the neighboring area was either directly or indirectly associated with the system of Confederate fortifications at Union Mills, the surrounding area has been and will continue to be altered by the development of the Balmoral Tract and Balmoral Greens Golf Course. In order to preserve and protect Battery Hill Redoubt and its immediate environs, Elm Street Development, Inc. transferred ownership of approximately six and a half acres of land containing the fort to Fairfax County for park purposes. The boundary coincides with the legal boundaries of that parcel transferred to Fairfax County by Elm Street Development known as "Open Space B."

## **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

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"A" Fort and Battery Hill Redoubt, Camp Early Fairfax County, Virginia

Section of General Development Plan: Balmoral (17 April 1992)



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"A" Fort and Battery Hill Redoubt, Camp Early Fairfax County, Virginia

#### Photographs

- #1 3. Ronald D. Howe
  - 4. 2 April 1997
  - 5. Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA, "A" Fort negative # 16642: 4
    6. Flanking wall on "A" Fort's left viewed from the north.
- #2 3. Ronald D. Howe
  - 4. 2 April 1997
  - 5. Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA, "A" Fort negative # 16642:7
  - 6. Flanking wall on "A" Fort's left viewed along its northwest aspect.
- #3 3. Ronald D. Howe
  - 4. 2 April 1997
  - 5. Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA, "A" Fort negative #16642:20
  - 6. Flanking wall on "A" Fort's right viewed along its southwest aspect at a salient angle.
- #4 3. Ronald D. Howe
  - 4. 2 April 1997
  - 5. Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA, "A" Fort negative # 16642:21
  - 6. Flanking wall on "A" Fort's right viewed along its southwest aspect near its end.
- #5 3. Ronald D. Howe
  - 4. 2 April 1997
  - 5. Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA, "A" Fort negative # 16642:11
  - 6. Northern side of "A" Fort's apex with water-filled ditch viewed from the east.

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"A" Fort and Battery Hill Redoubt, Camp Early Fairfax County, Virginia

#### Photographs (continued)

- #6 3. Ronald D. Howe
  - 4. 2 April 1997
  - 5. Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA, "A" Fort negative # 16642:14
  - 6. Eastern side of "A" Fort's apex with water-filled ditch viewed from the south.
- #7 3. Ronald D. Howe
  - 4. 2 April 1997
  - 5. Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA, "A" Fort negative # 16642:17
  - 6. Southern side of "A" Fort's apex with water-filled ditch viewed from the west.
- #8 3. Ronald D. Howe
  - 4. 2 April 1997
  - 5. Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA, "A" Fort negative # 16642:30
  - 6. Distant view of "A" Fort's apex with cannon embrasures from the interior facing east by northeast.
- #9 3. Ronald D. Howe
  - 4. 2 April 1997
  - 5. Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA,
    "A" Fort negative # 16642:31
  - 6. Close view of "A" Fort's apex with cannon embrasures from the interior facing east by northeast.
- #10- 3. Ronald D. Howe
  - 4. 2 April 1997
  - 5. Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA,
    "A" Fort negative # 16642:33
  - 6. "A" Fort's northeastern cannon embrasure viewed from the outside facing southwest.

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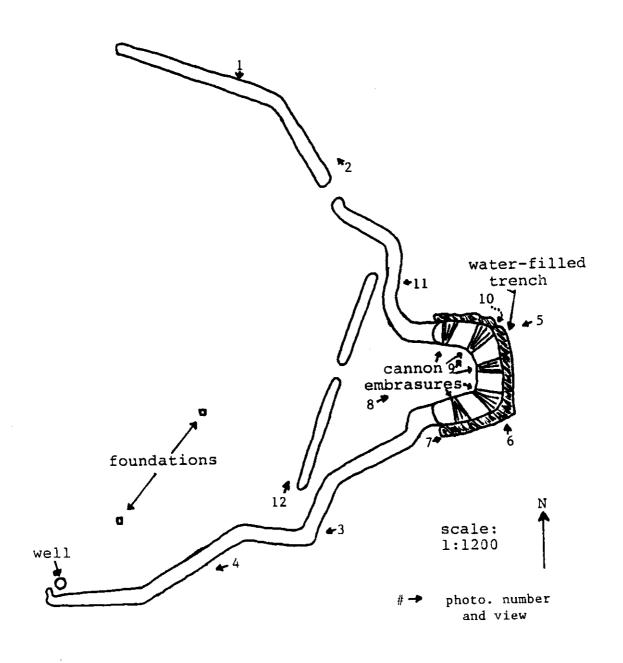
"A" Fort and Battery Hill Redoubt, Camp Early Fairfax County, Virginia

#### Photographs (continued)

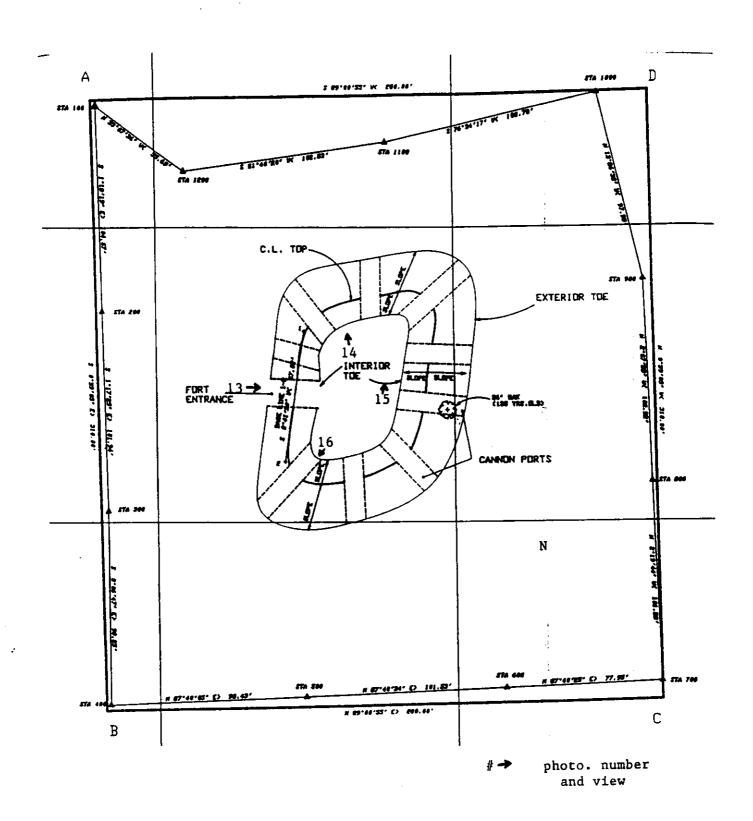
- #11- 3. Ronald D. Howe
  - 4. 2 April 1997
  - 5. Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA,
    "A" Fort negative #16642:9
  - 6. Distant view of "A" Fort's interior wall at its closet point to the flanking wall on the left viewed from the east.
- #12- 3. Ronald D. Howe
  - 4. 2 April 1997
  - 5. Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA, "A" Fort negative # 16642:29
  - 6. "A" Fort's interior wall viewed along its west side from the south.
- #13- 3. Ronald D. Howe
  - 4. 20 April 1997
  - 5. Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA, Battery Hill Redoubt negative #16643:10
  - 6. Interior of the redoubt viewed from the west through its entrance.
- #14-3. Ronald D. Howe
  - 4. 20 April 1997
  - 5. Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA, Battery Hill Redoubt negative # 16643:4
  - 6. Northern wall of redoubt with cannon embrasure viewed from inside facing north.
- #15- 3. Ronald D. Howe
  - 4. 20 April 1997
  - 5. Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond, VA,
    Battery Hill Redoubt negative # 16643:7
  - 6. Eastern and northern walls of redoubt with cannon embrasures viewed from inside facing north.

## "A" FORT

TENT PLATFORMS SLIT TRENCHES



## BATTERY HILL REDOUBT



SCALE 1" = 50 FEET

